

**BOARD OF CODE ENFORCEMENT
VONNEGUT CONFERENCE ROOM
INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY, INDIANA**

OCTOBER 24, 2013

ATTENDANCE:

The following Board of Code Enforcement members were present:

Rick Powers, Presiding Officer
Susan Blair

Anthony Bridgeman
Tony Pearson

The following members were absent:

Lisa Jeff

The following staff members were present:

Courtney Bennett	Deputy Director, Administrator, Chief Financial Officer Division of Administration, Logistics, Licenses and Permits
Steve Wolff	Deputy Director, Division of Inspections
Joseph W. Smith	Assistant Corporation Counsel
Tonya Hilliard	Secretary to the Board of Code Enforcement

INTRODUCTIONS:

Mr. Rick Powers called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m., and he introduced board members Mr. Anthony Bridgeman and Ms. Susan Blair.

The following staff introductions were also made: Ms. Courtney Bennett, Deputy Director, Mr. Steve Wolff, Deputy Director, Mr. Joseph Smith, Assistant Corporation Counsel, and Ms. Tonya Hilliard, Board Secretary.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: NONE

BUSINESS POLICY AND RESOLUTIONS:

2013-C10-024 Certification: High Weeds and Grass Liens

Under Chapter 575 of the Revised Code of the Consolidated City of Indianapolis and Marion County, the Department of Code Enforcement ("DCE") is responsible for the inspection, abatement, and enforcement of environmental public nuisances. In the event that the property owner does not correct the violation or cannot be

found, the City enlists a contractor to mow and/or clean that property. Section 575-7(a) of the Revised Code authorizes DCE to abate the violation and charge the costs related to abatement to the responsible property owner.

Section 575-7(b)(3) of the Revised Code provides that in the event these abatement costs are unpaid, the City shall place a lien upon the property.

Financial Information: There are a total of 2,145 mowing fees with a total amount owed of \$757,185.00. The liens reflect outstanding fees as of October 21, 2013.

Funding Source: N/A

The board members asked several questions, concerning the liens.

Mr. O'Conner and Ms. Bennett answered several questions, and provided information that a payment plan did exist for citizens.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

MOTION: Mr. Bridgeman moved to adopt Resolution 2013-C10-024. Seconded by Mr. Pearson. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

DCE GENERAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

Ms. Kristin Settle, Program Manager, Nuisance Abatement began her presentation with information on two apartment complexes La Esmeralda and Heather Ridge, and that the Office of the City Prosecutor had filed public nuisance lawsuits against them.

Ms. Kate Warpool, Administrator, Bureau of Construction Services, gave an overview concerning the Richmond Hill area, and she stated that the sites previously investigated were assigned to the Department of Code Enforcement's High Weeds and Grass abatement and pest control. Ms. Warpool stated that the court later released the site and demolition orders issued.

Ms. Jennifer Schick, Administrator, Bureau of Environmental Services, conveyed updates regarding the Belmont and Van Buren fires, stated that various demolition orders were issued, and the Department of Code Enforcement was working very closely with various agencies including IDEM. Ms. Schick also informed the board members of inspections pertaining to water conservation, illegal dumping, forestry (trees and flora), and air compliance (air pollution).

The board members asked several questions, regarding television disposal and illegal dumping in the creek beds. Ms. Schick provided answers, and stated that electrical devices such as televisions could be returned back to the electronics stores.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

NEW BUSINESS:

The board approved two remaining board dates scheduled to meet on November 21st and December 19th of 2013. Mr. Powers stated that the 2014 schedule would be heard at the next meeting when alternate dates were established. Motion carried.


Mr. Powers introduced new staff promotions: Ms. Courtney Bennett, Deputy Director, Ms. Jacqie Heikes, Administrator, Bureau of Property Safety and Maintenance Services, and Sara Pastor, Supervisor, Bureau of License and Permit Services.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Powers asked the board members if there was any further business to come before the Board of Code Enforcement and that the next board meeting convenes on November 21, 2013.

It was taken by consensus of the Board of Code Enforcement that the meeting adjourn at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tonya Hilliard", written over a horizontal line.

Tonya Hilliard
Board Secretary